

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) Installation as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that at least one convertible stand ~~[(L1)]~~ is equipped with removable work roll lateral back-up means ~~(8, 8')~~ so that, in an additional configuration, very small diameter work rolls ~~(61, 61')~~, associated with said lateral back-up means ~~(8, 8')~~, can be used.

19 – 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) Installation as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the chocks ~~(20, 20')~~ ~~(23, 23')~~ of the work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ ~~(22, 22')~~ of the first four-high and of the second six-high configuration respectively, are slidably mounted between ~~[[the]]~~ guiding faces ~~(12a, 12b)~~ provided at the ends of protruding parts ~~(13a, 13b)~~ integral with the stand housings ~~[(10)]~~ and supporting bending means ~~(50, 50')~~ that co-operate only with the work rolls ~~(22, 22')~~ of the second six-high configuration.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) Installation as claimed in claim ~~[[23]]~~ 35, characterized in that the chocks ~~(20, 20')~~ of the work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ of the first four-high configuration and the chocks ~~(33, 33')~~ of the intermediate rolls ~~(32, 32')~~ of the second six-high

configuration co-operate with the same bending means ~~(5, 5')~~ supported on support parts ~~(40, 40')~~ integral with the housings ~~[(10)]~~ of the stand and that the chocks ~~(33, 33')~~ of the intermediate rolls ~~(32, 32')~~ are slidably mounted, in a direction parallel to the roll load plane ~~[(P1)]~~, between guiding faces ~~[(41)]~~ provided at the ends of said support parts ~~(40, 40')~~.

25. (Currently Amended) Installation as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the support parts ~~(40, 40')~~ carrying the bending means ~~(5, 5')~~ of the work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ in the first four-high configuration and of the intermediate rolls ~~(22, 22')~~ of the second six-high configuration, are slidably mounted, in a direction parallel to roll axes and in opposite directions, above and beneath the rolling plane ~~[(P)]~~ respectively, in order to adjust the roll gap to the product width in each configuration.

26 - 34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) Cold rolling installation, comprising means for allowing the product ~~[(M)]~~ to run through a rolling plane ~~[(P)]~~, successively in at least two rolling stands ~~(L1, L2)~~ operating in tandem, each stand comprising two housings ~~[(10)]~~ between which at least four stacked rolls including two back-up rolls ~~(3, 3')~~ and two work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ respectively, are slidably mounted, in a direction parallel to a roll load plane, and means ~~(15, 16)~~ for applying a rolling force between said rolls with adjustment of respective gaps, wherein at least one convertible stand ~~[(4)]~~ is provided with at least two possible configurations, while maintaining, for both configurations, at

least the same back-up rolls ~~(3, 3')~~ and the same means for applying the rolling force ~~(15, 16)~~, including respectively a four-high configuration fit for a first production range, with two work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ and two back-up rolls ~~(3, 3')~~ and a six-high configuration fit for a second production range, with two work rolls ~~(22, 22')~~, two intermediate rolls ~~(32, 32')~~ and the same back-up rolls ~~(3, 3')~~ and reversely, the work rolls and intermediate rolls being each rotatably mounted on two chocks, each provided with at least two back-up lugs for means ~~(5, 5')~~ for adjusting the conditions under which the rolling force is transmitted including means for bending the respective rolls, wherein on each side of the rolling plane, the roll bending means ~~(5, 5')~~ are the same in both of said at least two possible configurations and co-operate respectively with back-up lugs ~~(21, 24, 25)~~ of the chocks of work rolls ~~(2, 22)~~ in the four-high configuration and back-up lugs ~~(33, 63)~~ of the chocks of intermediate rolls ~~(32, 62)~~ in the six-high configuration, respectively, and wherein said the back-up lugs ~~(21, 21')~~ of chocks ~~(20, 20')~~ or work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ in the four-high configuration are offset with respect to roll axis, on the side opposite the rolling plane ~~[(P)]~~, and said back-up lugs ~~(34, 34')~~ of chocks ~~(33, 33')~~ of intermediate rolls ~~(32, 32')~~ in a six-high configuration are offset toward the rolling plane ~~[(P)]~~ with respect to roll axis, so that said back-up lugs ~~(21, 21')~~ of work rolls ~~(2, 2')~~ and ~~(34, 34')~~ of intermediate rolls ~~(32, 32')~~ are arranged substantially at the same level and co-operate with the same ~~adjusting~~ bending means ~~(5, 5')~~.

36 – 37. (Canceled)